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Environmentalists Cite Issues in Bridgeton Landfill Revised Contingency Plan

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<http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2013/08/23/environmentalists-cite-issues-in-bridgeton-landfill-revised-contingency-plan/>

BRIDGETON, Mo. (KMOX) – The owners of Bridgeton’s smoldering landfill, Republic Services, are out with a revised contingency plan, and, in the eyes of those watching it, it’s good and bad.

“Republic Services still has not come close, they’ve gotten closer, but have still not come close to the recommendations of the Department of Natural Resources independent fire experts,” said Ed Smith, Missouri Coalition for the Environment spokesman.

He says the goal is to keep the fire in the trash landfill away from an adjacent landfill containing radioactive waste. If the fire gets too close for comfort Republic Services would then start digging a ditch to separate the two landfills.

“It’s tricky,” said Smith. “The proposed ditch is still in the same place, but the trigger for digging the ditch has changed a little bit.”

Smith feels the owners of the landfill want to let the fire get too close and too hot to the nuclear waste before starting to act.

Smith hopes the Missouri Department of Natural Resource requests that the company toughen up the standards that would cause the contingency to come into play.